WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*167. [Transferred to the 28th March, 1990].

Supply of drinking water in the villages

*168. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of villages in the country without drinking water facilities as on date; and

(b) what steps have been taken so far to provide drinking water to such villages?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) There are 12764 problem villages in the country without safe drinking water facilities as per reports received so far from the States/UTs.

(b) Out of 12764 problem villages, 6406 problem villages are likely to be covered with safe drinking water facilities by 31-3-1990 and the balance 6358 problem villages will spill over to Eighth Plan. These spill over villages are likely to be covered in the first two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan under a time-bound action programme.

Disposal of old industrial disputes

*169. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about four lakh cases are pending before various industrial tribunals and labour courts in the country including the industrial-cum-labour courts functioning under the Ministry of Labour;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending for more than five years in different courts, State-wise, and the reasons for delay in their disposal; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken for the early disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) According to information available as on the 30th June, 1989, the number of industrial disputes and applications pending before the Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts of the Central Government, the State Governments and the Administrations of the Union Territories was 3.29 lakhs.

(b) State-wise data of cases pending for more than five years in Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts are not readily available. However, States had been requested earlier to provide information on cases which were pending for three years or more. A statement showing the information to the extent available is attached. The statement also shows the pendency of cases in the Central Government Industrial Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts. [See Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 46].

The reasons identified generally for delay in disposal of these cases are, inter-alia, heavy work load, occasional delay in filling vacancies of Presiding Officers, procedural impediments such as absence of Advocates, adjournments for furnishing information, stay orders of superior courts, or attempt to make an out of court settlement, etc.

(c) The steps in hand for expediting adjudication of industrial disputes are inter alia the following:—

(i) Improving and strengthening of the Conciliation Machinery so that a larger number of cases are settled at the conciliation stage;

(ii) Expeditious filling up of vacancies in the posts of Presiding Officers of the Labour Courts and the Industrial Tribunals;

(iii) Setting up of additional Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals as appropriate;

(iv) Holding of Lok Adalats where possible.

Position of the buffer stock of foodgrains

*170. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the foodgrains stock available as on the 1st January, 1990; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to procure sufficient stocks for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) The stock position of foodgrains with public agencies as on 1st January, 1990 is estimated at 12.13 million tonnes.

(b) A statement indicating the steps taken to procure sufficient foodgrains is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Steps taken to procure sufficient foodgrains stocks during the current marketing season 1989-90

With a view to maximising the procurement of rice and wheat the following measures were taken:—

(a) Wheat (1989-90 Rabi Marketing season)

(i) 50 per cent levy on wheat on traders in June 1989 was imposed by the U.P. Government from June 89 to October 89.

(ii) RBI increased the margin for advances to millers during the peak procurement season.

(iii) Strict enforcement of Regulatory measures adopted by the State Governments.

(b) Wheat (1990-91 Rabi Marketing Season)

All arrangements are being made to make maximum procurement of wheat in view of good prospects for the wheat crop in the 1990-91 rabi marketing season and enhanced support price and to ensure that the farmers get at least the support price for wheat and have not to resort to distress sale.

(c) Rice (1989-90 Kharif Marketing Season)

(i) The Kharif 1989-90 had been advanced by one month in the major rice procuring states of Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu in anticipation of early market arrivals of paddy.

(ii) Procurement price of paddy was further increased by Rs. 10 per quintal for all the three varieties i.e. common, fine and superfine w.e.f. the commencement of the Kharif season w.e.f. 13-10-89, which was effective from the beginning of the season.

(iii) Fixation of State-wise targets for procurement of rice for effective monitoring of procurement.

(iv) State Governments were advised to enforce strict regulatory measures to ensure that the millers|dealers fulfil their levy obligations, and also to plug leakage of levy effectively.

(v) Levy percentage was raised from 50 per cent to 75 per cent in case of Shri ganganagar District of Rajasthan and from 60 per cent to 75 per cent in Chandigarh.

मध्य प्रदेश में सहकारी क्षेत्र में चीनी मिलों की स्थापना

*171. श्री अजीत जोगी : क्या खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सहकारी चीनी मिलों की स्थापना के लिए लाइसेंस जारी किये जाने से संबंधित मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से प्राप्त हुए दो प्रस्ताव लम्बे समय से लम्बित पड़े हुए हैं ;